

hf happenings

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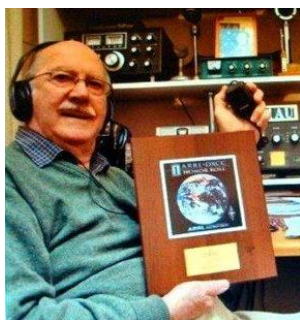
No 665

the week of 27 July 2015

66 Years and still going

Dennis Wells was licensed on 25 July 1950 as ZS1AU. On Sunday 26 July 2015, Dennis starts his 66th year as a licensed radio amateur. What an amazing achievement.

The President, Council and members of the South African Radio League congratulate Dennis on this fantastic achievement. Well done, Dennis!



Win This Historic Book

You can become the lucky owner of this historic ARRL Handbook, celebrating the centenary of the American Radio Relay League.

It is simple, take part in one or all of the SARL HF contests and submit your log with at least 10 contacts and you will be entered into the lucky draw. There is one additional condition, you have to be a fully paid up member of the South African Radio League at the time of submitting your log.



The CQ ZS Contest

Also known as the South African Radio League HF Phone Contest

The aim of the HF Phone Contest is for participants to contact as many amateurs in

Southern Africa as possible on the 20, 40 and 80 m amateur bands.

The HF Phone contest takes place from 13:00 to 16:30 UTC on Sunday 2 August 2015 with activity from 14 125 to 14 300 kHz; 7 063 to 7 100, 7 130 to 7 200 kHz and 3 603 to 3 650 and 3 700 to 3 800 kHz.

You can participate as a Single Operator Single Band, a Single Operator All Band; a Multi Operator Single Band or a Multi Operator All Band station. Individual competitors and club stations are encouraged to compete.

The exchange is a RS report and a consecutive serial number starting at 001. Phone contacts count 1 point. Count two points for each area (see below) on each band. Count 2 points for each stations contacted on all three bands.

Area 1: ZS1 Western Cape

Area 2: ZS2 Eastern Cape

Area 3: ZS3 Northern Cape

Area 4: ZS4 Free State

Area 5: ZS5 KwaZulu-Natal

Area 6: ZS6 Gauteng, Mpumalanga; Limpopo and North West

Area 7: 3B8 Mauritius, 3DA Swaziland, 7P Lesotho, 7Q Malawi, C9 Mozambique, Z2 Zimbabwe, 5R Madagascar, FR Reunion Island and FH Mayotte

Area 8: 9J Zambia, A2 Botswana, D2 Angola, V5 Namibia, ZD9 Gough and Tristan da Cunha Islands, ZS7 Antarctica and ZS8 Marion Island

Contacts with stations outside these areas are allowed, QSO points may be claimed but no zone or three-bander points may be claimed.

Certificates are awarded to the first three places and the highest single band score in each contest. There is also a trophy



South African Radio League * Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union since 1925



for the highest combined score in the three HF contests (phone, digital and CW).

Log sheets must be submit logs by midnight 9 August 2015 by e-mail to zs4bfn@gmail.com

The South African Radio League YL Sprint

Sunday 9 August on
40 metres from 09:00 to
10:00 UTC.



Club Log's Most Wanted List

The latest Most Wanted List, generated on 20 July, is available at <https://secure.clublog.org/mostwanted.php>.

The "Filter by continent" has been fine-tuned with the addition of AS Far East, AS Middle East, EU East, EU West, NA East Coast, NA West Coast and OC, VK and ZL. The information is derived from QSOs uploaded to Club Log (as of 15 July there were 301.3 million log entries available for analysis) and, to improve quality, only QSOs that have QSLs confirmed are considered to be worked.

VOACAP News

VOACAP Propagation Planner v2.0b is a comprehensive and free-of-charge planning tool for HF contesters and DXers. The new online version does all heavy-lifting and number-crunching on the VOACAP server, and visualizes the results graphically in two ways - by CQ or ITU Zones (short-path or long-path) and by band-specific zone charts (SP and LP), see <http://voacap.blogspot.fi/2015/07/voacap-propagation-planner-revisited.html>.

VOACAP DX Charts is a "spin-off service" that calculates short-path and long-path HF propagation predictions from the user's QTH to some of the upcoming DXpeditions, see <http://voacap.blogspot.fi/2015/07/introducing-voacap-dx-charts.html>.

Word to the Wise

August

- 2 – CQ ZS, the SARL HF Phone Contest
- 8 to 10 Aug – 7P8BM active holiday style from Malealea
- 9 - National Women's Day; SARL YL Sprint; Closing date HF Phone Logs
- 10 – Public Holiday
- 15 and 16 – International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend
- 16 – CQ ZS, the SARL HF Digital Contest
- 22 – Amateur Radio in Action – Johannesburg
- 23 – Closing date for the HF Digital logs
- 27 to 30 Aug - Gariep Arts Festival, Kimberley
- 28 and 29 Aug - Hantam Vleisfees, Calvinia
- 30 – CQ ZS, the SARL HF CW Contest

September

- 2 – Secretary's Day
- 3 Closing date October RAE
- 4 – Casual Day; 1 SA Tank Regiment Night Shoot
- 5 – SA Armour Museum Open Day
- 6 – Closing date for HF CW Logs
- 5 and 6 - IARU Region 1 SSB Field Day
- 12 and 13 – SARL National Field Day
- 14 and 15 - Rosh Hashanah
- 16 – World Ozone Day
- 19 - Amateur Radio in Action, Pretoria
- 19 and 20 – SARL VHF/UHF Contest
- 20 – Closing date for National Field Day logs
- 23 - Yom Kippur; Spring Equinox
- 24 – National Braai Day (National Heritage Day)
- 25 – School holiday
- 26 and 27 - CQ WW RTTY Contest
- 27 – Closing date for VHF/UHF logs

TL,DR - "Too Long, Didn't Read." Often given as the reason that those with an 'internet attention span' may tune out or otherwise lose focus when faced with a comprehensive or detailed discussion or explanation, in e-mail form, or even in interpersonal communication.

Operating Tip

Avoid using Non Standard Contest Exchanges. In any given contest, it is **not** helpful to have an exchange differing from that required by the contest sponsor. For example, if the exchange is RST and zone, send 599 05. Sending anything more or less than that will likely confuse others or cause them not to work you. *In practice, this does*

not seem to apply if you are a valuable multiplier. If you are a valuable multiplier, other stations will work you no matter how 'unique' you make your exchange, but you will not engender good will. If your exchange contains different information than everyone else you are working, it is a hint that you may have an opportunity to improve it.

African DX

Lesotho, 7P. Brendon, ZS4BM, family and friends will be visiting Malealea Lodge in Lesotho over the long weekend of 8 to 10 August (to celebrate his birthday). Brendon says 7P8BFN and 7P8BM will be on the air during the weekend. QSL via ZS4BM

Ethiopia, ET. There is a group of amateurs active from ET3AA, the Ethiopian Amateur Radio Society club station on the HF bands until 21 August. QSLs only via USOLW.

African Islands

IOTA frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz

SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

Seychelles, S7. Giovanni, IZ2DPX, will be active holiday style as S79DPX from IOTA group AF-024, Seychelles from 9 to 23 August. He will operate SSB on 40 to 10 metres. QSL via IK2DUW.

Comoros, D6. Ken, LA7GIA, will be active as D67GIA from Grande Comoros Island (Ngazidja, IOTA AF-007) between 14 and 23 September. Activity will be on 40 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and RTTY. Equipment will be a TS-480SAT with an Ameritron ALS 500m into a Mosley Mini 32 ASP (2-element beam for 20, 15 and 10 m), Mosley TW 22 M (2-element beam for 17 and 12 m), Hygain AV640 and wire antennas (as backup). QSL via LA7GIA direct ONLY (SAE + 3 USDs). Please note, NO IRC, NO Bureau QSL. Bu-

reau QSL will not be answered. For updates visit <http://la7gia.com/d67gia-2/index.html>

History this week

The week starting 27 July 2015



- 1375 - The first roller skating rink opens - London
- 1793 - the metre defined as 1/10 millionth of the North Paris half meridian
- 1809 - The first practical US railroad track (wooden, for horse-drawn cars) laid in Philadelphia
- 1866 - The metric system becomes a legal measurement system in US
- 1866 - The Atlantic telegraph cable successfully laid - 1 686 miles or 2 713 km long
- 1872 - Mahlon Loomis patents wireless telegraphy
- 1899 - The first motorcycle race held at Manhattan Beach, NY
- 1909 - Orville Wright tests the first US Army airplane, flying for 1 hour and 12 minutes
- 1914 - The assassination of Austrian Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife. Precipitates WW I
- 1919 - The Treaty of Versailles ending WW I signed
- 1944 - The first British jet fighter used in combat - the Gloster Meteor
- 1954 - The Fellowship of the Ring published. This volume introduces us to a history of Middle-earth, the main characters, the tale of the Ring of Sauron, the creation of the Fellowship, and the launch of the Quest to destroy the Ring (29 July).
- 1983 - The official speed record for a piston-driven aircraft set at 832 kph in California

- 2941 (SR) 27 July - the Company enter Mirkwood. "They walked in single file. The entrance to the path was like a sort of arch leading into a gloomy tunnel made by two great trees that leant together, too old and strangled with ivy and hung with lichen to bear more than a few blackened leaves..."

Get on the **RaDAR....and GO!**



Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 27 July to 3 August 2015

Phone Fray

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 29 July

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: NA: Name, state, province or country; non-NA: Name

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 31 July 2015

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

http://www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf

CWops Mini-CWT Test

13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 29 July and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 30 July

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high;

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts;

QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each call once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 1 August 2015

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html>

QRP Fox Hunt

01:00 - 02:30 UTC 31 July

Mode: CW

Bands: 20 m Only

Classes: Single Op - fox or hound

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 02:30 UTC 1 August 2015

E-mail logs to: (see rules)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/summer_rules.htm

NCCC RTTY Sprint

01:45 - 02:15 UTC 31 July

Mode: RTTY

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 2 August 2015

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html>

NCCC Sprint Ladder

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 31 July

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO;

non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and KH6) once per band; Each VE province once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 2 August 2015

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

TARA Grid Dip Shindig

00:00 UTC-24:00 UTC 1 August

Mode: PSK, RTTY

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m

Classes: High Power; Low Power; QRP; SWL

Exchange: Name and 4-character grid square

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each grid square once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 29 August 2015

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

http://www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_grid_score.html

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

http://www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_grid_rules.html

10-10 International Summer SSB Contest

00:01 UTC 1 August to 23:59 UTC 2 August

Mode: SSB

Bands: 10 m Only

Classes: Individual; Club; QRP

Max power: non-QRP: >5 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: 10-10 Member: Name, 10-10 number and state, province or country; Non-Member: Name, 0 and state, province or country

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with a non-member; 2 points per QSO with a 10-10 member

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 17 August 2015

E-mail logs to: tentencontest@ten-ten.org

Mail logs to: Dan Morris, KZ3T, 3162 Covington Way, Lenoir, NC 28645, USA

Find rules at:

<http://www.ten-ten.org/index.php/activity/2013-07-22-20-26-48/qso-party-rules>

Intercontinental Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend Contest

00:01 UTC 1 August to 23:59 UTC 2 August

Mode: All

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: (none)

Exchange: ARLHS Member: Member no and state, province or country; Non-Member: Contact no and state, province or country; Lighthouse/Lightship: ARLHS name, ARLHS no and state, province or country

QSO Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: (see rules)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 31 August 2015

E-mail logs to: (none)

Mail logs to: Dave Ruch, NFOJ, PO Box 20696, Bloomington, MN 55420-0696, USA

Find rules at:

<http://arlhs.com/illw-rules.html>

European HF Championship

12:00 - 23:59 UTC 1 August

Mode: CW, SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: CW Only - high or low; SSB Only - high or low; Mixed - high or low; SWL

Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts

Exchange: RS(T) and 2-digit year first licensed

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each 2-digit year licensed once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 10 August 2015

Upload log at:

http://lea.hamradio.si/~scc/euhf/euhf_log_submission.htm

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://lea.hamradio.si/~scc/euhf/euhfcrules.htm>

North American CW QSO Party

18:00 UTC 1 August to 05:59 UTC 2 August

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP or low; Multi-Two - low

Max operating hours: Single Op: 10 hours; Multi-Two: 12 hours

Max power: LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 05:59 UTC 9 August 2015

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at:

<http://www.ncjweb.com/naqplogssubmit/>

Mail logs to: Chris Hurlbut, KL9A, 1733 E. Broad Ave., Spokane, WA 99207, USA

Find rules at:

<http://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf>

RSGB RoPoCo CW

07:00 - 08:30 UTC 2 August

Mode: CW

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: (none)

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: RST and previous postcode received

QSO Points: 10 points per QSO with UK station

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 18 August 2015

Upload log at:

<http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: RSGB G3UFY, 77 Bensham Manor Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey CR7 7AF, England

Find rules at:

http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2015/rropo_co.shtml

SARL HF Phone Contest

13:00 - 16:30 UTC 2 August

Mode: SSB

Bands: 80, 40, 20 m

Classes: Single Op All Band; Single Op Single Band; Multi-Op All Band; Multi-Op Single Band

Exchange: RS and serial no

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 9 August 2015

E-mail logs to: zs4bfn@gmail.com

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

http://www.sarl.org.za/Document_Store/CO_NT_20150101_SARL_Contest_Manual_2015.pdf



Next Week's Contests

ARS Spartan Sprint, 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 4 August

Phone Fray, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 5 August

CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 5 August and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 6 August

NRAU 10 m Activity Contest, 17:00 - 18:00 UTC (CW), 18:00 - 19:00 UTC (SSB), 19:00 - 20:00 UTC (FM) and 20:00 - 21:00 UTC (Dig) 6 August

QRP Fox Hunt, 01:00 - 02:30 UTC 7 August

NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 7 August

NCCC Sprint Ladder, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 7 August

WAE DX Contest, CW, 00:00 UTC 8 August to 23:59 UTC 9 August

SKCC Weekend Sprintathon, 12:00 UTC 8 August to 24:00 UTC 9 August

Maryland-DC QSO Party, 16:00 UTC 8 August to 04:00 UTC and 16:00 - 24:00 UTC 9 August

50 MHz Fall Sprint, 23:00 UTC 8 August to 03:00 UTC 9 August

Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, DxCoffee, Southgate ARC News, the Islands, the Amateur Radio Newsletter and the Castles and Portable Operations Bulletin

Create Events, Reap Publicity!

Events should:

- Be fun
- Have meaning
- Combine elements
- Be Prepared

Publicity should:

- Have an objective
- Tell a good story
- Connect the elements
- Reflect well on your club